



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Minoru WAKI et al.**

Serial No.: 09/916,316

Filed: **July 30, 2001**

Group Art Unit: 1755

Examiner: **Callie E. Shoshone**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8006

For: **WATER-BASED INK COMPOSITION FOR INK-JET PRINTING, INK-JET PRINTING METHOD USING THE SAME AND PRINTED MATTER**

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

April 15, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated January 15, 2003, the following remarks are respectfully submitted.

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 are rejected.

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 3-7 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,889,083 to Zhu.

The Examiner asserts that although styrene-maleic anhydride and methyl methacrylate/butyl acrylate/acrylic acid polymer are referred to in Zhu as binders and not dispersants, given that the polymers are identical to those presently claimed, it is clear that they would inherently function as dispersants (col. 3, lines 15-23 and 27, col. 4, lines 34-38, col. 5, lines 1-4, 15-16, 21 and 27, col. 5, line 56- col. 6, line 9, col 8, lines 56-65, col. 9, lines 10-17, and col. 10, lines 31-44).